Forest Service Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forests 1755 Cleveland Hwy. Gainesville, GA 30501 (770) 297-3000

File Code: 1920

Date: October 12, 2004

Dear Interested Forest User:

The Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forests <u>Schedule of Proposed Actions</u> for the period of October 1 – December 31, 2004 is available for public viewing on our web site at: <u>www.fs.fed.us/conf</u> under the forest planning section. It shows actions we are proposing to do and basic information about them; such as general locations; a contact person for more information; and decision type (Decision Notice or Decision Memo) of the project. Our estimated date for contacting the public as we begin environmental analysis (scoping) and estimated dates for making the analysis available to the public before signing a decision is shown. Finally, an approximate date for carrying out the project on the ground is given.

Our purpose for this Schedule is to give you early and informal notice of actions we may carry out. You can let the listed contact person know if you are interested in a project. They will give you more detail about the proposal, an opportunity to comment, and use your comments in the environmental analysis.

The Schedule is updated every three months. Occasionally, you may see a proposal drop out all together if we decide not to bring the project to a decision. We do not send out special mailings to explain these changes. You can ask the contact person for details of any changes you see in the Schedule.

General questions about the Schedule, how the Forest Service plan projects, or a request to receive a paper copy should be directed to Joni Wheeler, 1755 Cleveland Highway, Gainesville, GA 30501 or phone (770) 297-3063. Normal office hours are 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M., Monday through Friday.

Specific questions about individual proposals or a request to be added to a proposal mailing list should be directed to the contact person listed above. Normal office hours are also 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. Monday through Friday for Regional or District Offices.

When visiting our web site, please sign up to have e-mail announcements, decisions or documents sent to you electronically. This can be done in the forest planning section. We would like to reduce our hard copy mailing lists as much as possible, so if you sign up for the e-mail, we will remove your name off our old mailing lists. Of course not all folks can take advantage of the e-mail, so the original mailing lists will be maintained.

If at any time you decide you no longer want to receive the Schedule, please let us know by phone, mail or telling a contact person.

Thank you for your interest in the management of the Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forests.

/s/ Joni M. Wheeler JONI M. WHEELER Office Automation Assistant

U.S. FOREST SERVICE SCHEDULE AVAILABLE

(Gainesville, Georgia) -- A Schedule with 131 Forest Service proposals for natural resource management actions on the Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forests are available to the public on request. The proposed actions will be analyzed for important environmental effects and ability to respond to issues raised by the public. Then decisions on whether or not to carry out the proposals, and if so, how will it be made. Work carrying out the actions would be done over several years. Proposals are wide ranging and include; land exchange, timber harvest, wildlife habitat improvement, recreation facilities construction, and watershed restoration.

A copy of the Schedule can be requested from Joni Wheeler, Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forests, 1755 Cleveland Highway, Gainesville, GA 30501 or phone (770) 297-3063 between 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM Monday through Friday.

NOTE TO EDITORS: A copy of the Schedule is attached. The contact person on the Schedule can help you with specific project information to tailor this release to your local area.

OUARTERLY SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED ACTIONS

First Quarter FY 2005 Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forests October 1, 2004

The USDA Forest Service is continuing - or expects to begin within the Period of October 1, 2004 through December 31, 2004 environmental analysis on the proposals shown in this Schedule.

Proposals are arranged on the Schedule first by Forest Service administrative units (including mailing address and contact person), next by Georgia County. See the Location Maps inside the mailing jacket for the location of unit offices. Each proposal is further identified within a county by a geographic place, name or other identifier, and then usually our best estimate of dates for key points in the process as follows:

The <u>first date</u> is when we plan to invite public input to the analysis process. The invitation is usually in the form of a letter or a newspaper notice, but may be posted notices in public places or other means.

The **second date** is less firm, but is when we expect either;

(1) to make the analysis available to the public for a 30-day review and comment period before the decision is made,

OR

(2) to notify the public of decisions, which do not have a 30-day, review and comment period.

The **third date** is when we expect that activities would actually begin on the ground. With complex projects, this may be two or more years away.

If 45 days has passed since the decision was made, the project is dropped from the Schedule.

Purposes of these Quarterly Schedules are to let you know in advance what projects we are considering and give you an opportunity to become a part of those of special interest to you. We encourage you to become involved with us in seeking balance between the needs and wants of people and the protection of the resources in the management of the National Forest.

You can call, write, or visit the office and contact person shown on this Schedule for each Forest Service office for further information on individual proposals of interest to you. Normal office hours are 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. Monday through Friday. Your response to this Schedule will be the signal to us to send you the public involvement information for the proposal and to notify you of the decision.

In addition to this Schedule and any public involvement notices, we will also notify those expressing an interest when a decision is made and what the decision is.

Forest: Chattahoochee/Oconee

Contact: Jim Kidd

Address: 1755 Cleveland Highway, Gainesville, GA 30501 Phone: (770) 297-3000 Newspaper: The *Times*, published daily in Gainesville, GA

Project Description	Location/County	Decisio DN	on/Type DM	Scoping	Decision/Review	Implementation
Recreation/Realty/Infra- structure: Poss Exchange – Exchange one Federal Tract (160 acres) for private tracts equal in value that provides protection to the Chattooga River drainage.	Rabun	X		10/01/04	02/15/05	07/01/05
Phillips Exchange: 45-acre federal tract to be exchanged for two nonfederal tracts. One to be determined and one tract to help consolidate NF adjacent to the Ocmulgee River.	Towns	X		11/01/04	04/01/05	06/01/05
Dunn Exchange: Exchange three tracts totaling 170 acres for three tracts totaling approx. 170 acres. One tract is a total inholding in a wilderness area and another will provide endangered species protection.	Lumpkin/Union	X		11/01/04	07/15/05	0915/05
American Natural Resources Exchange: Four small USA tracts for one large 206 acre In-holding in the Cedar Creek WMA. Objective to consolidate The WMA and NF.	Jones	X		11/04	03/04	06/04
Convey by competitive sale all buildings and administrative site acreage for the Yahoola WC, the Ranger's House, Old District Office, and associated buildings with the Work Center Complex at Tallulah WC site.	Lumpkin/Rabun		Х	11/04	01/05	2005/2006
Dallas Gay Exchange: Exchange one 116-acre tract. Tract is surrounded by Mr. Gay's property. No public access. Proposed property to be acquired by FS – is a partial in- holding with trout stream headwaters.	Gilmer	X		10/01/04	03/05	07/05

Ranger Districts: Armuchee-Cohutta Ranger: Debbie Whitman

Address: 3941 Hwy. 76, Chatsworth, GA 30705

Phone: 706-695-6736

Newspapers: Walker County Messenger, published bi-weekly (Wednesday & Friday) in LaFayette, GA

Project Description	Project Description Location/County Decision Type Sco DM DN		Scoping	Decision/Review	Implementation
01-034 Compartment 927 Provide Electricity At The Pocket Camping Area	Floyd	DM	4/03	3/05	2005
01-37 Compartment 927 Provide Water at the Pocket Picnic Area	Floyd	DM	4/03	3/05	2005
01-37 Compartment 927 Pocket Toilet Expansion/ADA Work	Floyd	DM	4/03	11/03	2005
Research: 07-51 Various Compartments Coweeta Research Plots	Murray/Fannin	DM	4/03	11/03	12/04
Recreation: Iron Mtn. Trail Relocation	Murray	DM	4/03	01/05	2005
Recreation: Dispersed Camping Area Expansion (Jigger Cr, Lackey Knob)	Murray	DM	4/03	9/04	2005
Recreation: Develop Parking Lot at Bearpen Branch	Murray	DM	4/03	2/05	2005
Recreation: Complete Pinhoti Trail Route; Stillhouse Parking Lot and Trailhead	Gilmer/Walker	DM	12/03	7/04	10/04
Early Successional Habitat Improvement Project	Murray	DM	12/03	11/04	2005
Commercial Thinning in a Watershed	Walker/Chattooga/ Floyd	DM	01/04	11/04	2005
SPB Prevention and Restoration	Walker/Chattooga	DM	01/04	11/04	2005
Armuchee Unit Fuel Reduction by Burning	Unit-wide	DM	2000	10/04	2005
Cohutta Unit Fuel Reduction by Burning	Unit-wide	DM	5/04	10/04	2005
Haley Special Use Permit	Gordon	DM	4/04	11/04	2004
Soil/Water Quality: Johns Creek Streamside Restoration	Floyd	Supplement to DM	4/02	7/04	2004
Walker County Water Project	Walker	DM	01/04	11/04	2004
Wildlife Opening Rehabilitation	All Counties	DN	10/04	01/05	2005

SPB Herbicide	All Counties	DN	4/04	12/04	2005
Treatments					
North Georgia EMC	Whitfield	DM	7/03	9/04	11/04
Power Line Relocation					
Various Road Repairs	Murray/Fannin/	DM	10/04	10/04	10/04
from hurricane damage	Gilmer				
Rock Creek Crossing	Murray	DM	11/04	11/04	2005
Replacement					
Pinhoti Trail Trailhead	Whitfield	DM	01/05	2/05	2005
Construction – Dug Gap					
Cohutta Wilderness LAC	Murray/Gilmer/	EA	2003	01/05	2005
Implementation	Fannin				

Ranger District: Brasstown

Ranger: Alan Polk

Address: P.O. Box 9, Highway 515 West, Blairsville, GA 30512

Phone: (706) 745-6928

Newspaper: North Georgia News, published weekly (Wednesday) in Blairsville, GA

Towns County Herald, published weekly (Thursday) in Hiawassee, GA Dahlonega Nuggett, published weekly (Thursday) in Dahlonega, GA

Project Description	Location/County	Decisio DN	n Type DM	Scoping	Decision/Review	Implementation
Special Uses: 04-019 Various Special Use Permits: Outfitter/ Guide Operations, One-time Events	District Wide		X	As applications are received	On-Going	On-Going
04-063 Misc. Special Uses (utility lines, easements, etc.)	District Wide		X	As applications are received	On-Going	On-Going
04-075 Cerulean Warbler Habitat Improvement	Union		X	11/02	12/5/03	2004/2005
04-076 Kudzu Control Project	Union/Towns	X		11/02	2005	2005
04-077 Coopers Creek WMA/ Early Successional Habitat Project	Union		X	3/03	4/12/03	2004/2005
04-078 Plant Oak Seedlings on sites killed by Southern Pine Beetle	Towns/Union		X	8/03	01/04	2005
04-082 Vault Toilet Installation Woody Gap, DeSoto Falls, Dicks Creek	Lumpkin/Union		X	01/03	On-Going	2005
04-083 Davenport Mountain Forest Stewardship Project	Union	X		6/04	2005	2005-2007
04-085 Ivylog Road - Heavy Maintenance	Towns/Union		X	2005	2005	2005
04-088 Southern Pine Beetle prevention in Yellow Pines	Towns/Union		X	12/03	8/04	2004/2005
04-089 Hemlock Woolly Adelgid Predator Beetle Release	District Wide		X	3/04		On-Going
04-090 SPB Herbicide Treatment	All Counties	X		4/04	2005	2005/2006
04-091 Watershed Restoration	Towns/Union/ Lumpkin		X	11/04	3/05	2005/2006
04-092 Hurricane Salvage	District-wide		X	10/04	11/04	2005
04-093 Swallows Creek WMA ESH project	Towns		X	01/05	9/05	2006/2007

New Projects shown in Red

Ranger District: Chattooga Ranger: Michael Gryson

Address: P.O. Box 1960, Clarkesville, GA 30523

Phone: (706) 754-6221

Newspaper: The Northeast Georgian, published twice weekly (Tuesday & Friday) in Cornelia, GA

Chieftain & Toccoa Record, published twice weekly (Tuesday & Friday) in Toccoa, GA

White County News -Telegraph, published weekly (Thursday) in Cleveland, GA

The Dahlonega Nuggett, published weekly (Thursday) in Dahlonega, GA

Project Description	Location/County	Decisio DN	on Type DM	Scoping	Decision/Review	Implementation
Forest Health: 06-087 Thinning of Pine Stands (50 acres maximum)	Habersham/Stephens		X	2/04	5/04	2004
06-088 Invasive Plant Eradication	East Zone	X		8/03	11/03	2004
06-089 SPB Hazard Tree Treatment	Habersham/Stephens/White	71	X	As needed	As needed	2004
at Various Sites	Traversnami Stephens, White		2 .	7 IS Hecaea	715 needed	2001
06-104 Pre-commercial Thin of Pine	Habersham/Stephens		X	2/04	5/04	9/04
Stands – 100 acres				_, 。.	2,0.	<i>,,</i> 0.
06-102 Commercial Thinning of Pine	Habersham/Stephens		X	2/04	5/04	9/04
Stands – 100 acres	Tracersmann sceptions		11	2, 0.	5701	3,01
06-105 Site Prep and Planting 150	Habersham/Stephens		X	3/04	6/04	9/04
acres SPB infected stands				3, 0.	0, 0.	<i>,,</i> 0.
06-107 Pre-Com. Thinning of 200	Habersham/Stephens		X	11/04	2/05	6/05
acres for SPB prevention						3, 32
06-108 Planting contract for site prep	Habersham/Stephens		X	1/05	01/05	2/05
areas 150 acres				3,00		_, 00
06-109 SPB prevention commercial	Habersham/Stephens		X	11/04	4/05	2004/2005
thinning on 300 acres						
Recreation:	Stephens		X	12/03	3/04	2004
06-067 Install Toilet Facility/Trail	1					
Relocation at Locust Stake ORV						
(defer until Rec. Realignment Process						
is complete)						
06-068 SPB Herbicide Treatments	All Counties	X		4/04	9/04	2004/2005
06-076 Upper Chattahoochee River	White		X	9/03	01/04	2004/2005
Watershed Restoration (Phase I -						
road mtce. river access, fisheries)						
06-078 Relocate sections of Panther	Habersham		X	2/04	9/04	2005
Creek Trail						
06-095 Appalachian Trail Re-route	White		X	3/04	6/04	2004
(Coon Den Ridge)						
06-096 Upper Chattahoochee River	White		X	01/04	9/04	2005
Watershed Restoration (Phase II -						
camping) (delete all)						
06-001 Yonah Mtn. Road, Parking	White	X		12/97	5/01	2/04
and Trail.						
Soil & Water:	Stephens	X		5/04	9/04	2004/2005
06-097 Black Mtn. Rd.	_					
06-106 De-commissioning of Granny	Habersham		X	11/04	2/05	9/05
Camp Rd.						
Special Uses/Lands:	Habersham	X		12/01	2/04	2004
06-077 Upgrade and Pave Low Gap						

D 1/G : DOD)				l		
Road (Georgia DOT)						
06-091 Yonah Mountain Special Use	White		X	7/03	01/04	2004
Permit (Army Rangers)						
06-092 Misc. special use permits	Habersham/Stephens/White		X	01/04	3/04	2004
06-098 Underground waterline –	Stephens		X	01/04	3/04	2004
Cannon Road area (City of Toccoa)	-					
Facilities:	Stephens	X		01/04	9/04	2005
06-099 Currahee Mtn. Ranger House	-					
Fuels:	Habersham/Stephens		X	2/04	5/04	2004/2005
Commercial Thinning of Pine Stands						
for Fuel Reduc. within WUI						
06-093 Chenocetah Mountain Urban	Habersham		X	6/03	10/03	2004
Interface Burn – Phase II						
06-094 C-220 (Dodd Road) Fuels	Stephens		X	6/03	5/04	2004/2005
Treatment (47 acres)	-					
Wildlife:	White	X		01/04	9/04	2005
06-100 Early-Successional Habitat						
06-101 Lower Panther Creek Stream	Stephens		X	01/04	5/04	2005
Habitat Improvement	_					

New Projects shown in Red

Ranger District: Oconee Ranger: Bill Nightingale, District Ranger Address: 1199 Madison Rd., Eatonton, GA 31024

Phone: (706) 485-7110

Newspaper: Eatonton Messenger, published weekly (Thursday) in Eatonton, GA

Project Description	Location/County	Decision DN	Type DM	Scoping	Decision/Review	Implementation
08-037 Range Allotments	Greene	X		9/04	12/04	2005
08-047 Brender Forest Red-Cockaded Woodpecker Habitat Improvement	Jones	X Signed 9/30/04		Pre- Scoping 5/19/03 Scoping 01/04	9/04	2005
08-48 Red-cockaded Woodpecker Sub- HMA Improvement	Jasper/Jones	X Signed 9/30/04		4/03	7/04	2005
Special Uses: Atlanta Children Foundation	Morgan		X	01/04	3/04	2004
8-63 Ecosystem Restoration (HMA)	Putnam/Jones	X		9/03	01/04	2004
08-67 Hitchiti Projects	Jones		X	9/03	10/03	2004/2005
8-70 RCW Nesting & Foraging Habitat Thinning	Jones		X	4/04	11/04	2004
8-71 Dyar Pasture	Greene		X	01/04	02/04	2004
8-73 Cedar Creek Waterfowl Area	Putnam	X		7/04	9/04	2005
8-74 C140 Gully Restoration	Jasper		X	7/04	8/04	2004
8-75 Range Allotments	Jasper			7/04	10/04	2005
8-76 Pre-commercial Thinning #2	Greene/Jasper/Jones /Oglethorpe/Putnam		X	6/04	7/04	2004
8-77 Town Creek Trailhead Parking	Greene		X	5/04	7/04	2004
8-78 Oak Woodland Restoration	Greene/Putnam		X	7/04	8/04	2004
8-79 Tree Planting (SPB Tree Restoration)	Jasper/Jones/Putnam		X	10/04	11/04	2005
8-80 RCW- Improvement; Witches Broom Sale	Jones		X	7/04	8/04	2004
8-81 Pre-commercial Thinning #3	Greene/Putnam/ Oglethorpe/Jasper/ Jones		X	3/05	3/05	2005
8-82 Hardwood Site Prep	Putnam/Jasper/Jones		X	2005	2/05	2005

Project Description	Location/County	Decisio	Decision Type		Decision/Review	Implementation
		DN	DM			
8-83 Planted	Putnam/Jasper/Jones	X		3/05	4/05	2005
Pine/hardwood						
w/herbicide						
8-84 Restoration of	Jones		X	6/04	6/04	2004
Hillsboro Recreation						
Area						
8-85 FY 2005 Rx	All Counties		X	7/04	9/04	2005
Burning						

New Projects shown in Red

Ranger District: Tallulah Ranger: Dave Jensen

Address: 809 Highway 441 South, Clayton, GA 30525

Phone: (706) 782-3320

Newspaper: The Clayton Tribune, published weekly (Thursday) in Clayton, GA

Project Description	Location/County	Decisi DN	on Type DM	Scoping	Decision/Review	Implementation
Recreation:						
05-112 Oakey Mountain OHV	Rabun/		X	12/01	7/04	2004
Trail re-routes	Habersham					
05-158 Cigarette Mountain	Rabun	X		12/01	12/04	2005/2006
(Oakey OHV Trail Access)						
Paving						
05-159 Oakey-Ann Gap OHV	Rabun		X	12/01	10/04	2005
Trail Reroute						
Soil & Water:	Rabun	X		4/03	5/05	2006/2007
05-127 Paving of Tuckaluge						
Creek Road						
05-131 Walking Stick Road	Rabun			11/04	2/05	2005
Heavy Maintenance						
05-139 Lucy Gap Road Re-	Rabun		X	3/03	10/04	2005
Closure						
05-141 Charlie's Creek Soil and	Towns		X	3/03	8/04	2004/2005
Water Project						
05-142 Sarah's Creek Road	Rabun		X	3/03	11/04	2005
Closure (School Bus Area)						
05-153 Charlie's Creek	Towns		X	10/03	8/04	2004/2005
amethyst mine rehabilitation						
05-161 Closure and Soil/Water	Rabun		X	8/04	10/04	2004/2005
Rehabilitation of Three						
Abandoned County Roads						
Forest Health:	D 1		7.7	4/0.4	5/04 2/05	2004 2006
05-099 Thinning of pine stands	Rabun		X	4/04	7/04 - 3/05	2004-2006
05-147 Regeneration of SPB –	D 1		3.7	4/0.4	0/04 0/05	2004 2006
damaged areas	Rabun		X	4/04	9/04 - 2/05	2004-2006
05-162 Salvage of SPB	D 1		37	7/04	7/04	11/04
mortality on Rock Creek Road	Rabun		X	7/04	7/04	11/04
05-163 Salvage of SPB						
mortality on Coleman River	Rabun		X	7/04	7/04	11/04
Road						
05-165 Upper Warwoman	D 1	***		10/04	4/05	2005 2000
Timber Sale	Rabun	X		12/04	4/05	2005-2008
05-166 American Chestnut	B . 7			11/0-	2/2-7	2005 2000
pollination and progeny testing	East Zone		X	11/05	2/05	2005-2008
Wildlife:						
05-122 Early Successional	Rabun	X		8/02	9/04	2005/2006
Wildlife Habitat Improvement						
05-160 Wildcat Creek Trout	D 1		37	0/04	11/04	2005
Stream Enhancement	Rabun		X	8/04	11/04	2005
Facilities:						
05-114 Helibase and	Rabun	X		11/01	10/04	2005-2008
administrative site construction						

05-167 Maintenance and repair of roads, including salvage of trees and fixing slide sites.	Rabun/Towns			8/04 – 9/04	10/04	2004/2005
Special Uses: 05-129 Miscellaneous special use permits	Rabun			Ongoing	Ongoing	2004/2005
05-154 Rabun County Business and Technical Park Access Road	Rabun		X	3/04	8/04	2004/2005
05-155 Highway 28 (Russell) Bridge Replacement (GA DOT)	Rabun	X		5/04	2005	2006/2007
05-156 Highway 76 Bridge Replacement (SC DOT)	Rabun	X		5/04	2004	2005/2006
Special Forest Products: 05-136 Shrub/Tree Stick Permit	Rabun/Towns		X	4/03	11/04	2005/2006
05-149 Water gauge Firewood gathering area	Rabun		X	4/04	12/04	2005/2006

Ranger District: Toccoa Ranger: Cassius Cash

Address: 6050 Appalachian Highway, Blue Ridge, GA 30513-9574

Phone: (706) 632-3031

Newspaper: The News Observer, published Tuesdays and Fridays in Blue Ridge, GA

Dahlonega Nuggett, published weekly (Thursday) in Dahlonega, GA

Project Description	Location/County	Decisio DN	on Type DM	Scoping	Decision/Review	Implementation
02-111 Mechanical Fuels Treatment/Presc. Burning	District wide		X	10/03	2003	2005
02-119 Coopers Creek WMA Road Daylighting Project (w/Brasstown RD)	Union		X	3/03	4/12/04	2004/2005
Recreation: Anderson Creek ORV Trail System Reroute and construction (phase 2)	Gilmer		X	7/2/04	8/04	3/04
O2-121 Forest Road & Trail Act Easement to Fannin County for Dry Branch Road paving	Fannin		X	9/03	6/04	2004
Special Use Permit: Outfitter-Guide Service- Fly Fishing	Fannin/Lumpkin		X	7/04	8/04	10/04
02-124 Installation of a Moldering Privy at Stover Creek Shelter on Appalachian Trail	Fannin		X	2/04	10/04	3/05
02-117 Kudzu Control Project	District wide	X		5/03	2004	2004/2005
02-118 Replacement of Little Rock Creek Bridge on FS Road #69	Fannin		X	8/03	2004	2004
02-119 Rich Mtn. Rd. Project	Gilmer	X		6/03	6/10/04	10/04
02-122 Mark and Sell 400 CCF SPB trees, under Forest-Wide SPB EA	District wide				2003	2003/2004
02-123 SPB Herbicide Treatments	All Counties	X		4/04	9/04	4/05
Rx Burns, 3,645 acres WP Encroachment Fuel Red.	District wide		X	6/11/04	9/04	2005